AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0008] in its entirety with the following replacement paragraph.

[0008] The object is inventively achieved with a protective element to dissipate overvoltages, comprising a surge arrester having a first electrode and a second electrode; a varistor that is fashioned as a disc and exhibits a lesser diameter than the surge arrester, the varistor having a lower electrode that sits directly upon the first electrode of the surge arrester, and an upper electrode; a contact pin that contacts the first electrode of the surge arrestor; an electrically isolated spacer that is arranged between the varistor and the contact pin; and an electrically conductive cup, in which the varistor and the surge arrester are electrically connected in parallel between the cup and the contact pin, the cup having base upon which sits the second electrode of the surge arrester, the cup having an electrical connection with the upper electrode of the varistor, wherein the contact pin is arranged at least partially in a space between the cup and the varistor. Various embodiments of the invention may comprise additional features, including a spreader element that comprises at least two arms connected with the upper electrode of the varistor, the spreader element being braced in the cup, and that serves as an electrical connection with the cup. The contact pin may comprise at least two feet that are directed laterally past the varistor. The spacer may be fitted to an inner diameter of the cup, and comprise openings separated from one another for feet of the contact pin. The contact pin may comprise at least two feet that are directed laterally past the varistor, wherein the spacer may be fitted to an inner diameter of the cup, and the spacer may comprise openings separated from one another for feet of the contact pin or for the feet of the contact pin and the arms of the spreader element. The spacer may comprise a depression in the middle in which the contact pin is partially embedded. The spacer may comprise a depression in the middle in which the varistor is partially embedded. The varistor, surge arrester, and cup may be fashioned rotationally symmetric, in that the contact pin, spacer, varistor, and

surge arrester may be arranged coaxial and concentric to a central axis of the cup. The width of the cup in the region of the surge arrester may exhibit a step-like expansion, such that, in the region of the first electrode of the surge arrester, the cup is separated apart from it. The cup and the contact pin may be fashioned from brass, and the spacer may be fashioned from rubber or silicon. The element may be configured to have an operating voltage of the varistor such that it is above the operating voltage of the surge arrester. The inventive element may be utilized in a telecommunication device or a high-frequency telecommunication system component for protection.